# Arthmond Times-Dispatch

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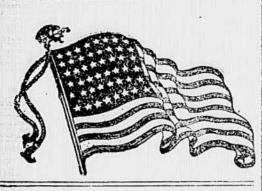
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WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1918



Patrons of the government airpiane mail service between Washington, Philadelphia and New York will be required to pay 24 cents an ounce, or fraction thereof, on mail transported by the service. This is pretty costly, but at that it is cheaper than telegraphic tolls for lengthy communications. The service will begin May 15.

Short shrift for loafers is promised by the Virginia Commission on Farm Labor. Its campaign for the rigid enforcement of the vagrancy laws is actively under way, and soon there will be distress among the sons of rest. Virginia to-day has no room for the idler. Its untilled acres cry aloud for labor, and its factories and public works are in sore need. A round-up of the able-bodied, cornerstore slackers should prove a long step in supplying the demand.

"Gambling with the lives and property of our citizens," as Mayor Ainslie describes continuance of the present antiquated fire alarm system, is too risky a proposition for Richmond to countenance longer. With many millions of dollars at stake, as well as the lives of its people, the city cannot afford to take such chances. Cost of a modern system would be small compared with what it might mean in destruction if a niggardly policy or one of delay were adopted.

Whatever its equivalent in Teutonic gutup the defeat at Zeebrugge, the Kaiser with lavish hand is distributing decorations as rewards for the "splendidly carried out defense." The Red Eagle with swords and the Knights' Cross with swords seem to be the favorites, but their distribution will not banish the fact that the commander of the post was decorated with the order of the double cross with the hook.

Interest in the "City Hall" petition for an election to determine if the form of municipal government shall be changed seems to be dying through inanition. Perhaps it is just as well that it is so. There never has been any real public sentiment in favor of such an election, and it has been recognized generally as unnecessary except by the coterie of city employees who believe their jobs are at stake. The charter-change election, provided for by act of the General Assembly, probably will be held in connection with the regular August primary, and the voters then will be able to enforce a simplification of the governmental system and dispense with the costly frills and furbelows which have proved impediments to the smooth working of the municipal machinery.

Figures set forth in Mayor Ainslie's comprehensive report on Richmond's affairs for 1917 give the city much food for encouragement and none for the calamity howler. When it is considered that the nation is at war and labor and financial conditions are sbhormal, it is a remarkably good showing that is made. It is particularly notable that in the face of these trying times there have been actual increases in such items as the number of manufacturing plants, their capital invested, value of their products and in jobbing trades and sales. While the city has been growing along these lines, the bank clearings have increased \$541,378,312, and deposits and loans went up \$13,685,992 and \$31,359,714 respectively, these figures being exclusive of the Federal Reserve Bank. If Richmond can put on this healthy growth in time of war, what may not be expected of its enterprise when peace returns?

Virginia's State Council of Defense, appointed by Governor Davis soon after he Look office, has most effectively proved its worth to the State and amply justified the bellef of its friends that it is on the job every minute of the time in doing constructive war work. Its success in securing 200 tractors with which Virginia's soil will be turned that bigger crops may be raised and the acute labor situation met, this being the fifth State to obtain them, is no small achievement. It means that each tractor will plow eight acres a day, or a total for the 200 of 1,500 acres. Multiply that by the number of days in a year's plowing seasons, and one will begin to understand the magnitude of what has been accomplished. This is the for wheat. Bostonians are all happy now.

kind of work that really counts, and it is only a beginning. It may be said without breach of confidence that other matters perhaps equally important are under consideration, and through the efforts of the council Virginia will not be found lagging behind other States in its assistance to the national government in all that pertains to the prosecution of the war.

Far-Seeing Diplomacy

P RESIDENT WILSON was bitterly assailed at home and much misunderstood abroad because he failed to recommend a declaration of war against Austria at the time this country went to war with Germany. Austria had committed the same crimes against American rights, though fewer of them. She had stood with Germany in every controversy with the United States. Her ambassador to Washington had been found guilty, upon his own confession, of outrages against American domestic interests Her troops were fighting America's allies and every man in Italy had felt that if the United States were in sympathy with Italy's cause, Austria should be recognized as our enemy as well as their enemy.

The case seemed complete. Few of us were able to see why Austria should be left out of the deal, why she should be looked upon as a friend when she was in reality a dangerous enemy, why the President should seek to confine this country's war to Germany when Germany's allies were vital to her. All these things were wondered at in some quarters and were made the basis of bitter criticism in others.

Through it all, the President held his peace. He refused to heed the clamor at home or to yield to importunities from abroad. The time finally came when he made his recommendation that Austria be recognized as an enemy and, as we all know, Congress acted favorably upon it without delay, as it will act with regard to Bulgaria and Turkey once the word is said.

It has remained for the revelations of the past few weeks to clear up the seeming mystery of the President's position and to viudicate the wisdom of his course. We now know that he held back because he had definite knowledge that Austria was weakening. that her government was working systematically and persistently toward peace, that the Austrian people were sick of war and the time might come when Germany would either be forced to accept the Austrian peace views or else lose an ally that would paralyze her military power.

All this has come to the surface since the controversy developed between Vienna and Paris over peace negotiations. It has become evident that only the fall of Russia and Roumania prevented the dual empire from demanding an immediate peace or else the abandonment of Germany. It is, of course, certain that the President was fully informed concerning these things. He knew where he stood and he knew the weakness of Austria. He did not want to make an enemy of that country as long as there was even a remote chance of using her as a club over

# Twenty Billions for War.

THE Secretary of War has given the coun-I try a clear indication of the war bill which the American people must meet during the coming fiscal year, and in doing it has outlined the scope of the military program which the United States has prepared. So enormous an outlay of money would stagger any other but a nation of almost illimitable wealth, and so ambitious a program would paralyze any other nation than one wholeheartedly dedicated to a cause which it knows to be just.

In round numbers, the military establishment, exclusive of fortifications and heavy artillery, plans to spend \$15,000,000,000 durturals may be, camouflage is being used in July 1. For fortifications and heavy artiling the twelve-month period commencing it is planned to spent \$2,500,000,000. making a grand total of \$17,500,000,000. Recommendations to this effect are now before the appropriate committees of Congress and will soon be acted upon.

Such a sum of money literally dwarfs the initial appropriation which the United States made at the outset of the war. About a year ago Congress acted favorably upon a war budget of \$3,500,000,000, a sum which took the breath of the average citizen and which startled the whole world. At that time it was not imagined even in Washington that this country would undertake more in aid of its allies than to provide food for them, to provide munitions for them, to place our navy at their disposal and to raise and send abroad an army of something like 500,-900 men for "moral effect."

It now comes to pass that this government is preparing to train, equip and send abroad more than 2,000,000 men. It is calculating its expenditures in terms of tens of billions of dollars. It is building the greatest merchant fleet ever conceived by any nation, and is employing a navy of more than 1,000 vessels for the re-enforcement of the allied sea power. Verily, a year has wrought a marvelous change not only in American thought, but in American war activity. If the military establishment finds it necessary to expend \$17,500,000,000 during the coming year, it is certain that the total war bill will exceed \$20,000,000,000, since the navy and the Shipping Board have asked for nearly \$2,000,000,000 each,

It may have been inspiring to witness a niece of William H. Taft scale a slender eighty-five-foot ladder in behalf of Liberty bonds, but it may be suggested that it would be more thrilling to see the former President drag his 300 pounds over the same aerial course. That would be really worth while.

With the Baker law holding the Virginia sheep-killing dogs back, the new wool-growing industry on the White House lawn ought to prove profitable. Success to you, Messrs, Wilson and Grayson

What Senator Sherman says Secretary of War Baker said about George Washington's soldiers is as nothing compared with what the American people are saying about the

Berlin says the Zeebrugge raid was a failure, but anyhow the Kaiser dismissed the fellow who was in command there for letting it look like a success.

And now the womenfolks are telling us that it was Mrs. Clark who decided that speakership-senatorship question for Champ.

Bean flour is announced as a substitute

SEEN ON THE SIDE BY HENRY EDWARD WARNER

The Bells. The bells, the bells-the bells of Rheims! The bells of proud cathedrals hung Where for the generations swung They've given joy and sadness tongue Chimed for the mass, pealed for a birth, Clanged Yuletide peace to men on earth, Tolled measured cadence for the soul Gone to its rest and reached its goal!

The bells, the bells-the bells of France! Shot from the belfry, torn by hands Of murderous, raping, arson bands The descerated bells, hauled down From many a peaceful, happy town-Torn down and molded into guns By murderous, raping, arson Huns!

The bell, the bell-the bell of peace! Cracked in its zeal for freedom's cause, Leaps to the fray, to hell's own jaws, To give marauding murder cause! And while she rings, such man as these Hurried in khaki overseas Shall face the fire and bear the pain Till justice is enthroned again!

Charcoal Eph's Daily Thought. "Hit don' make no diffunce how mad de sea git," said Charcoal Eph, in a mood, "Yo' cyarn't blame him when yo' see some o' de shape laigs kickin' him aroun' at de bathin' places! Try some soup, Mistan Jackson."

Our baby boy wants us to buy him a candy Hun so he can lick it!

To-Day's O. Henry. "'Friend,' says I, in a hurry, 'have ambitions, but don't kick a rung out of your ladder."

Forbidden Talk.

Mr. Grundy-And now, Mrs. Grundy, I want to know what you really think of me. Mrs. Grundy-1 can't tell you, sir; I never use such language.

Most women, after all, cry just to be feminine.

The Crusty Thing.

Miss Gaything-Oh, Mrs. Booblehatch, do you love babies? Booblehatch, the Brute-Can't say, miss; I never ate any.

Our Language. These twain went out to take a row, He in the stern, she in the bcw; Then silly Cupid broke his bow. The row concluding in a row.

Consolation. Why worry when the sun is out And time so gayly flies? A bullfreg croaks a thousand times To every one he dies.

St. Paul woman too': a fox terrier pup to veterinarian to have him cur-tailed.

Apologies to Ade. "Say, Chimmie, wot's dis game dey calls golluf?"

"Oh, I dunne, only dey's a little ball an' a lot o' men wid sticks, an' dey swats de ball an' chases after it, an' de felst guy finds it, he wins

How It Works. "Mrs. Snigglefritz certainly has a clever way of spreading news."

"Yes; she just tells her nearest friend in confidence, not to tell a single soul on earth, because if she did it would cause a lot of trouble. Then she leaves the result to the perverseness of waman."

The auto's a vehicle swell That will run quite a while for a spell.
You hurry right by With a gnat in your eye And a chug and a snort and a smell.

I've been thinking a whole lot lately Of weighty affairs of state, And looking up the pedigrees

Of the mighty and the great;
I've talked in public for sweaters And heaped the Huns with hate; But what I would really I ke to know Is whether my hat's on straight!

I've thought our patience with slarkers Is really bound to hurt; I've written letters to trench boys

Who are steadily digging dira I see that an eminent preacher Thinks girls are inclined to flirt-

But all the time I am wondering What you think of my new-cut skirt!

The question of arbitration Is not to be settled in haste; I'm strong for finishing fighting, Now that we've got a taste.

I believed in tariff revision From silks and jewels to paste: But what I started to ask you was: Now how do you like my waist?

I believe in suffrage for women-To the balloting Eve should go; I believe that a man with money

Is no better than one with a hoe. As to foreign complications, I think we had better go slow;

But the thing that interests me most Is-ahem!-does my petticoat show?

### Health Talks, by Dr. Wm. Brady (Copyright, 1917, by National Newspaper Service.) Our Renders' Views.

A thoughtful reader writes: "You say the cause of cancer is unknown. A celebrated army surgeon states that the cause of cancer in 30 per cent of all cases is chronic ulcer of the stomach. He explains that it is more frequent in man than in woman because a man takes his food hotter, gets served first and eats while the housewife pours the tea and serves the others at the table.

"My own canclusion is that cancer cancer."

others at the table.

"My own conclusion is that cancer comes from lead poisoning mostly from eating foods preserved in the cans. We have become a nation of canned food caters. Even our hotels and restaurants make most of their pies and the like from preserves put up in one gallon tin cans." The correspondent here cites several instances

The correspondent here cites several instances of acute illness which he attributes to lead polsoning from eating tinned food. He then concludes: "I take it the lead accumulates at a weak point in the body (an ulcer or sore spot anywhere) a little at a time, till the dam bursts and trouble begins. Dear doctor, excuse my letter, but you are now jubic property, and if some of your readers come back at you just overlook it."

if some of your readers come back at you just overlook it."

A great many instances of cancer of the stomach seem to bear out the assertion of the "ceiebi ated army surgeon." Cancer of the stomach is the most frequent situation in men. Cancer of the womb is the most frequent situation in women. Cancer of the stomach, according to surgeons of large clinical experience, very often develops in the site of an old stomach ulcer which may, or may not, have given the patient troubie in recent years. Surgeons find this sequence of events so frequently in their explorations that they feel it is an added incentive for operating in all cases of stomach or gastric ulcer which do no promptly respond to physiological rest of the stomach and medicinal and detetic treatment.

As for the influence of lead, we can assure the correspondent that it is by no means as general as he imagines. The cases he cited in his letter did not at all resemble lead polsoning. There is to-day practically no danger of load poisoning or any other kind of poisoning from canned food or food preserved in tin. Certainly fresh food is all ways preferable, but the use of canned food is all right.

overeating is correct, it should be a lesson in table manners for the man.

Questions and Answers.

The Wassermann Test.—I was greatly interested in a recent article in which you intimated that the Wassermann blood test is not a sure test of syphilis. Will you kindly tell me what is a sure test? I have had several Wassermann tests made, all negative. My doctor thinks I can marry, and that I am not liable to have unhealthy children.

Answer.—Ine Wassermann test may react positively to other conditions than syphilis. It is only a chemical test. It may react negatively notwithstanding the presence of unquestionable syphilis. It is rather a confirmatory test, corroborating your physician's tentative opinion in an obscure case. Your physician's opinion and advice would be better than any number of Wassermann tests.

### Books and Authors

Books and Authors

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But we know exactly how it sounds
During the very fiercest fighting.
The gentleman who occupies the desk
Next to ours wears celuloid cuffs
While running his typewriter.

Our Friend Johnny Carey.

But every time we see a regiment go by we to and hook up with another Liberty bond. The installment collectors are going to be stopping it our house pratty regularly from now on.

What shall we do with all the money we are coing to save up in bonds by the time they mature? That's our idea of nothing to worry about.

will hock everything but the baby and the Johnny Carey is over there with the old Six-

Johnny Carey is over there with the old Sixty-Ninth New York, and we are going to buy
the cookstove has to go
Did we ever tell you about Johnny Carey;
Johnny is a human decument, without a kith or
kin in the world. He was head belihop at the
club where we lived for a long time.
When the war broke out, Johnny broke out
the tried three times to get in, and the fourth
time he made it. He left his job flat between
happened to it.
We went to the armory to see him off, and
it in hoons. If he hasn't winged twenty "hoons"
already, were mistaken in the man, that's all.
We don't believe Johnny is an American citizen at all, but he acts so mach like one you
could hardly tell the difference.

Information Bureau

Inquiries regarding almost any topic,
excepting on legal and medical subjects, are unswered free. As all inquiries negarding almost any topic,
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There is great excitement among the radicals over the forthcoming convention to nominate candidates for State officers. The candidates seem to be about as follows: Governor—Wells, Hawkhurst. Hunnicutt, Pierpont; Lieutenant-Governor, James Clements, of Portsmouth, J. P. Baldwin, of Prince Edward, and O. E. Hine, of Fairfax. Attorney-General—T. R. Bowden, of Norfolk: George W. Booker, of Henry County, and J. L. C. Danner, of Richmond. The convention will meet at noon to-day. Lewis Lindsey is out and out for Hunnicutt for Governor. There is great excitement among the radicals

# Their Point of View on Vital Questions of the Day as Expressed By Writers Best Equipped to Cover the Subjects Selected--A Daily Editorial Feature.

# COMMERCE AFTER THE WAR

By WILLIAM C. REDFIELD, Secretary of Commerce of the United States.

may become unfriendly.

It is pitiful to read extracts from the German press, which seem to show that they erpect to take up the task of rebuilding their commerce where they laid it down. They reckon the world's demand for potash as a purely German asset; it was so, but it is no longer. They were the world's source for dyestuffs; that opportunity has gone. It was they to whom the world looked for contical glass; we do not look there.

## Information Bureau

Mongolian race, who made hostile invasions into the Roman Empire. Under Attila, their leader, they almost destroyed the empires of the east and west. In 350 A. D. they crossed the Volga River, defeated and afterwards united with the Alani, another barbarous tribe, then attacked and conquered the Goths. With various subject tribes the Huns invaded Gaul under the leadership of Attila, and were finally defeated about 451. The total area of Germany is 208,825 square miles, or about the same size as the combined States of Colorado and Wyoming.

mayor George Chababoon qualified as Mayor of Richmond yesterday by taking the oath of office before Justice Gregory and entered upon the discharge of his duties.

Colonel Robert E. Withers, after an interview with General Robert E. Lee, at Lexington, writes as follows: "General Lee deplores the acerbity of political feeling now so rifle in the land, and is disposed to believe that more moderation and prudence in the expression of opinion and less bitterness in the denunciation of political opponents would conduce more to the speedy settlement of the vexed questions which now agitate the country. He, however—and with rare discretion—affords no room to cavil to the enemies of the South."

New York is to have the sensation of a live prince this month—the Prince of Saxe-Coburg, who will stop there a few days on his way to Brazil.

There will be eleven negro delegates to the National Republican Convention—all from the South, of course.

Mr. Blagham spoke the entire day in the impeachment case yesterday, and will conclude his speech to-day. In Washington bets are now two to one in favor of the acquittal of the President.

Total paid employees, 423.

We do not assume the role of prophet more than any other people, and had

could not, even at the close made good within measurable time, and would thus add to the sacrifices of the war a serious economic depres-There is little doubt that the writer

spoke the truth (Copyright, 1918.)

chi, where we ille flowers hand helphop at the with the one of Johnsy broke out illustrate the war broke out, Johnsy broke out illustrate the man with the measure illustrate

Instead of fine embroidery, The patriotic lass Will busy nimble fingers In weeding garden sass. She'll turn from golf and tennis To make potatoes grow And exercise a plenty In playing with a hoe.

From out the realm of story, . With all the old-time grace, Will step the little milkmaid Whose fortune is her face; But on close inspection One possibly allows

We'll see once more Maud Mullers Who on a summer's day Are vigorously raking The meadows sweet with hay. In countenances glowing Will be the priceless wealth Of simple radiant heauty
And perfect rustic health.

Who used to shrick at cows

The butterflies of fashion Will cease their fluttering ways And strenuously farming Will have no idle days The sweet society girl No one will hear complaining Her hair won't stay in curl